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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
AT SAN FRANCISCO

MELANIE RINCON,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE,
COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES,

Defendant.

Case No. C12-04158 MEJ

**JOINT REQUEST TO EXTEND DEADLINE
FOR CONDUCTING MEDIATION
AND ~~[PROPOSED]~~ ORDER**

Pursuant to U.S.D.C. ADR Local Rule 6-5, Plaintiff Melanie Rincon and Defendant AFSCME submit this joint request to extend the deadline for conducting a mediation session in this matter.

The parties' deadline for conducting a mediation session in this matter is currently January 15, 2013. For the following reasons, the parties jointly request that the deadline be extended two weeks, to January 29, 2013.

The parties initiated early settlement discussions in this matter shortly after it was filed. The parties remain committed to discussing early settlement, prior to the necessity of conducting formal mediation. The parties anticipate exchanging formal settlement proposals prior to January 15, 2013. If these efforts fail to produce a settlement of the case, the parties will be prepared to engage in formal mediation no later than January 29, 2013.

The parties' opportunity to engage in informal settlement discussions has been hampered by health problems experienced by Plaintiff's counsel. These health problems were of sufficient severity that Mr. Johnston's physician recommended in November 2012 that he cease all work for a period of four weeks, and Mr. Johnston is only now returning to anything approaching his previous law practice. Further information is available should the same be desired; in order to preserve the confidentiality of the medical information in question, we do not go into further detail in this pleading.

Dated: December 20, 2012

BEESON, TAYER & BODINE, APC

By: /s/Andrew H. Baker
ANDREW H. BAKER
Attorneys for AFSCME

Dated: December 20, 2012

LAW OFFICES OF RICHARD JOHNSTON

By: /s/Richard Johnston
RICHARD JOHNSTON
Attorneys for MELANIE RINCON

Good cause appearing therefore, the parties' joint request to extend the deadline for conducting a mediation session to January 29, 2013, is granted.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 20, 2012



Honorable Maria-Elena James